



U.S. Department  
of Transportation  
**Research and  
Special Programs  
Administration**

400 Seventh St., S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20590

JUL 21 2004

Mr. M.A. Pinto  
Action Unlimited Resources, Inc.  
230 Quigley Blvd.  
New Castle, Delaware 19720-4106

Ref. No. 04-0156

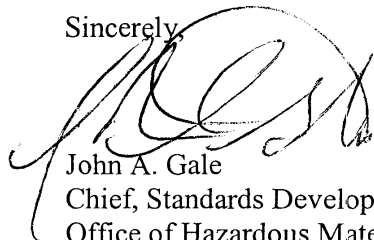
Dear Mr. Pinto:

This responds to your May 21, 2004, letter requesting clarification on the retention of shipping papers under the Hazardous Materials Regulations (HMR; 49 CFR Parts 171-180). Specifically, you ask if you may combine hazardous and non-hazardous materials in a single shipping document and if you may retain copies on a computer.

The answer to both questions is yes. Section 172.201(a)(1) authorizes hazardous and non-hazardous materials to be described on the same shipping paper provided that the hazardous materials: (1) the hazardous material is entered first; (2) entered in a color that clearly contrasts with any description on the shipping paper of a non-hazardous material; or (3) identified by the entry of an "X" placed before the proper shipping name in a column captioned "HM." The "X" may be replaced by "RQ", if appropriate. You may retain your shipping papers with entries for both hazardous and non-hazardous materials electronically, if a hard copy is provided to an authorized representative upon request. A separate document is not required; however, a separate document, such as a daily inventory/shipping receipt, may be retained when using a "permanent" shipping paper, as provided under § 172.201(e).

I hope this answers your inquiry.

Sincerely,



John A. Gale  
Chief, Standards Development  
Office of Hazardous Materials Standards



040156

.172.201

**ACTION UNLIMITED RESOURCES, INC.**  
**230 QUIGLEY BLVD.**  
**NEW CASTLE, DELAWARE 19720-4106**  
**FAX TRANSMISSION**

*Boothe*  
*§172.201*  
*Shipping Papers*  
*04-0156*

May 21, 2004  
Fax: (302)-323-1442  
E-mail: Actionpnc@aol.com

TO: U. S. Department Of Transportation  
Research and Special Programs Administration  
Office of Hazardous Materials Enforcement  
820 Bear Tavern Road, Suite 306  
West Trenton, NJ 08628

SUBJECT: Disposition of Shipping Papers

ATTN: To Whom It May Concern

Kindly assist our firm. We have questions and request clarification of these concerns.  
Your assistance will be greatly appreciated.

1. Our firm proposes to utilize our shipping papers as a combination or both shipping papers and invoices containing all materials shipped, both hazardous materials and all non-hazardous.
2. Also, may we retain these shipping papers/invoices of all materials shipped in our firms' computers instead of paper copies? Thus, we would be able to retrieve this documentation upon request.

NOTE: The above request would greatly reduce the volume of paper work required under Subpart C - Shipping Papers, Item 172.201, (e).

3. If the above system of retainage is not acceptable, may we provide a written copy of all hazardous materials shipped in a separate format to satisfy 172.201.

Kindly advise if the above proposed system ( #'s 1 & 2) does, in fact, satisfy the DOT requirements of 172.201 (e); or is # 3 required.

Kindly reply by E-mail or fax at your convenience. Thank you.



M. A. Pinto  
Consultant